

# EPA 2008 State Innovation Grants Competition

## Questions and Answers on USEPA 2008 State Innovation Grant Solicitation

The following is a list of questions that have been asked during the open solicitation period. The answer follows each question and the general topic for each question has been put in **bold print**. As questions continue to come in, this list will be updated during the solicitation period to provide equal access to potentially interested applicants. New questions will be located at the end of the list.

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Q1. We are a **regional organization** that has been given delegated authority for POTW's. Would we be **eligible** to apply for the grant?

A1. On page 12-13, and 40 of the solicitation, we addressed this issue. Interstate, regional, county, or municipal agencies with a re-delegated authority for federal environmental permitting programs may apply for a State Innovation Grant, however, they must be a part of a team proposal that includes the State-level Agency from which they received the re-delegation. The Agency with the re-delegated authority may be the lead agency in a team proposal. If an agency or organization with re-delegated authority were to apply, they must document their delegation authority at the time of pre-proposal submittal. In addition, a letter of support from senior management at the state-level agency, with the authority to commit that agency to the project would be required within one week following the deadline for submittal of pre-proposals.

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Q2. We are a part of the **Division of Forestry and Natural Resources**. Would we be able to **apply** for the State Innovation Grant?

A2. If your agency or program has received a delegation for a federal environmental permitting program from EPA or a re-delegation of that program from the State, and your proposal concept fits within the *Innovation in Permitting* theme of the grant program, you would be eligible to apply as a part of a team proposal. The principal environmental regulatory agency for the State(s) must retain a substantive involvement in the project.

If your program has not received delegated authority of a federal environmental permitting program, you could not apply directly for the grant, but you could be included as a partner in a team proposal.

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Q3. Can **any regional or municipal agency** apply via **grants.gov** ?

A3. Provided that you have received re-delegated authority for federal environmental permitting programs, you would be eligible to apply for this grant program. Familiarize yourself with the application instructions. If your agency does not already have a certified Duns and Bradstreet Universal Data Numbering System (DUNS) number, you will need to obtain one. If you are familiar with grants.gov, you are ahead of the game. If you have never used grants.gov to apply for a grant, you should see the text box on page 25 of the solicitation. Allow sufficient time. We recommend that you do not wait until the last day for submittal of your proposal.

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Q4. We have a project that meets the Threshold Criteria, but is **not related to a regulatory permitting program**, would it still be considered?

A4. No.

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Q5. We are preparing a teaming proposal with some other States; however, with the page limitations on the pre-proposal it will be difficult for us to fully describe the activities, outputs and outcomes for each partner. Do you have any suggestions as to how we might do that and stay within the **page limit**?

A5. One thing that you might consider is including a logic model that describes how the activities link to the project's outputs and outcomes. The activities for each of the partners might be indicated by a footnote system. This is a convenient way to describe the specific activities of each partner and how they link to the bigger project goals and it can summarize a large amount of information on a single page.

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Q6. What is the **grant period** ?

A6. The grant period is one to four years, based upon requests from the applicants. Applicants may propose projects with final outcomes on a longer timescale, but the final workplan must commit to submitting a report that includes a description of both completed and anticipated project outcomes within three months of completion of the project. The grant period for all applicants selected to receive assistance under this solicitation is anticipated to begin on October 1, 2008, and expire no later than September 30, 2012.

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Q7. The solicitation states that applicants must comply with **Executive Order 12372 on Intergovernmental Review Process**. Is this required for submittal with the pre-proposal?

A7. No, it is not required for the pre-proposal. It would be required with the submission of the final proposal/workplan and application from applicants that are selected to continue in the competition.

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Q8. We will not be able to submit our pre-proposal using the recommended grants.gov route. Are there any other **alternatives to the online submission** ?

A8. The preferred method for submittal of pre-proposals is through grants.gov. If you need to apply through a means other than electronically via grants.gov, please contact Sherri Walker by phone at (202) 566-2186, or by e-mail to [innovation\\_state\\_grants@epa.gov](mailto:innovation_state_grants@epa.gov).

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